

DOE News Release – Wildland fire update

Date: Thursday, July 19, 2007

Time: 9:10 p.m.

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NONTH FOLLOW-UP NEWS RELEASE FOR INL EMERGENCY

Fire status at 9:10 p.m. July 19 – Wildland fire contained

Firefighters, aided by heavy equipment and air-tanker crews, have contained the Twin Buttes wildland fire on the southeastern edge of the INL Site Thursday evening. An aerial scan of the area indicated the fire, which began Wednesday night, burned more than 9,000 acres.

Crews will remain through the night to ensure flames do not cross fire lines. INL's Emergency Response Centers are standing down.

Other information:

- Today, the fire was primarily active in the southern section of the East Butte area.
- More than 50 firefighters and equipment crew members from INL, the Fort Hall Shoshone-Bannock Tribes and the BLM battled the fire.
- An investigation into the cause of the fire is ongoing.
- No INL facilities were threatened by the fire, however, the Materials and Fuels Complex on the desert Site was closed Thursday due to highway closure.
- Authorities are assessing fire damage to communications equipment and power poles atop the East Butte.
- Highway 20 across the Arco Desert remains open.
- INL shift operations are returning to normal schedules.

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Media Information: Media Information: (208) 521-0370 (beginning 7/20/07)

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